

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 L-03 H-03

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 AGR-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 TAR-02

DRC-01 /186 W

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R 251445Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9000

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 1587

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR PFOR

SUBJECT: GOVT PARTY ON REDUCTION IN US SUGAR QUOTA

REF: GEORGETOWN 1587 ##

OCTOBER 20, 1973 EDITION OF NEW NATION, ORGAN OF GOVERNING PEOPLE'S NATIONAL CONGRESS(PNC), CARRIED EDITORIAL WHICH IN EFFECT ATTRIBUTED DRASTIC REDUCTION IN 1974 US SUGAR QUOTA FOR WEST INDIES TO POLITICAL PIQUE OVER INDEPENDENCE BEING DEMONSTRATED BY AREA. COMPLETE TEXT FOLLOWS:

QUOTE THE DECISION OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO CUT DRASTICALLY THE SUGAR QUOTA OF THE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN FROM 220,000 TONS TO A MERE 23,803 TONS OUGHT TO SERVE AS A BEACON TO THE PROGRESSIVE FORCES OF THE THIRD WORLD FOR THEM TO CLOSE THEIR RANKS AND UNITED MORE CLOSELY TO COUNTER THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PRESSURES OF THE SUPER-POWERS. IT OUGHT MORESO (SIC) TO SERVE AS AN EYE-OPENER TO
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THE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN AS TO THE PRICE TO BE PAID FOR

GENUINE INDPENDENCE.

WE REALISE THAT THE DECISION OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
STEMS FROM THE FACT THAT WE IN THE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN
ARE STRIVING TO ACHIEVE GENUINE INDPENDENCE AND ARE NOT
PREPARED TO BROOK ANY INTERFERENCE FROM EAST OR WEST IN THE
DETERMINATION OF OUR FOREIGN, TRADE, ECONOMIC OR CULUTURAL
POLICIES. INDEED, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO DICTATE
TO US WITH WHOM WE SHOULD HAVE REALTIONS, BE IT DIPLOMATIC,
ECONOMIC OR OTHERWISE. HOWEVER, IF WE ARE TO ASSERT OUR
INDEPENDENCE, SURELY WE OUGHT NOT TO MAKE OURSELVES SUBJECT
TO THE DICTATES OF OTHERS. WE SHOULD DEMAND TO BE LEFT ALONE
TO DETERMINE OUR DESTINY. WE KNOW WHAT IS BEST FOR OUR
PEOPLES.

THE EXCUSE GIVEN BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR REDUCING
OUR QUOTA IS TO BETAKEN WITH THE PROVERBIAL GRAIN OF SALT.
AS WE HAVE SAID, THE REAL REASON FOR THE DECISION IS OUR
INDEPENDENT APPROACH TO DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. WE
ARE ADAMANT IN OUR STAND TO BE NON-ALIGNED. THIS MEANS WE
MUST BE PREPARED TO FACE THESE PRESSURES AND TO LOOK
FARTHER AFIELD TO MORE FRIENDLY AND SYMPATHETIC NATIONS WHOSE
PEOPLE CONSTITUTE A MORE REWARDING SUGAR MARKET. AT THE
SAME TIME, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE OUR PEOPLE WITH
QUALITY GOODS AT CHEAPER PRICES, THUS BRINGING DOWN
SUBSTANTIALLY THE EVER-INCREASING LIVING COST. THE PNC'S
POLICY OF DETERMINING ITS TRADE PARTNERS ON THE BASIS OF
NATIONAL INTEREST MUST CONTINUE.

THIS ATROCIOUS ACT OF THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT MUST BE
SEEN BY FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE AS AN EXTENSION OF THE MONROE
DOCTRINE--MAYBE, IN ALL ITS AMERICAN UGLINESS, RESEMBLING
THE WEATERGATE AFFAIR--AND ACT WITH ALL RESOLUTENESS TO
COUNTER ATTEMPTS TO PREVENT US FROM BEING EQUALS AND FROM
ENJOYING THOSE INALIENABLE RIGHTS--LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE
PURSUIT OF HAPINESS--WHICH HAVE BEEN ENDOWED BY THE CREATOR.
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NOTE BY OCT: ## REFERENCE INCORRECT.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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